

REMARKS

Claim 37 is currently being amended to fix the dependency thereof, and obviate the Examiner's rejection thereto. Additionally, claims 31-36 and 48-53 are currently being cancelled.

The current amendments do not introduce new matter within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §132. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendments, and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

1. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for acknowledging claims 21-30, 38-47, and 54-55 are allowable. Additionally, Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for acknowledging claim 37 would be allowable if amended to obviate the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112. Therefore, Applicant has amended claim 37 to obviate the instant rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, as well as cancelled claims 31-36 and 48-53. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully believes claims 21-30, 37-47, and 54-55 are in condition for allowance.

2. Rejection of Claim 37 Under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd Paragraph

Applicant has amended claim 37 to obviate the instant rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

3. Rejection of Claims 48-53 Under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 48-53 have been cancelled rendering the rejection thereof moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the instant rejection.

4. Rejection of Claims 31-33 and 48-50 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 31-33 and 48-50 have been cancelled rendering the rejection thereof moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the instant rejection.

5. Rejection of Claims 34-36 and 51-53 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 34-36 and 51-53 have been cancelled rendering the rejection thereof moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the instant rejection.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the above remarks, the presently claimed subject matter is believed to be novel and patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections, and allow pending claims 21-30, 37-47, and 54-55. Favorable action with an early allowance of the claims pending in this application is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned practitioner if any questions or comments arise.

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Respectfully submitted,

By: 

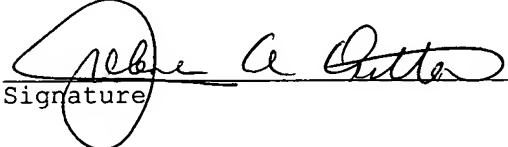
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